



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

Reply to
Attn of: ETPA-085

**RE: FY 2007 INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (GAP)
FUNDING INVITATION**

Dear Honorable Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10 would like to invite your Tribe or tribal consortium to submit a grant proposal for the FY 2007 Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP). All proposals should be **postmarked no later than Friday, December 15, 2006**. Please refer to the enclosed funding announcement for details on required proposal elements and the GAP application process timeline.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT GAP GRANTS

All federally recognized Tribes and tribal consortia are eligible for GAP funding to build capacity in managing and implementing environmental programs. Consistent with the national GAP formula, base funding is not less than \$75,000 and up to \$110,000 per year for most Tribes. Tribes with large reservations may receive up to \$160,000. For tribal consortia, Tribal resolutions from all GAP-eligible Tribes who will benefit from your GAP grant must be submitted prior to the full application deadline. Our policy is to provide Tribal Governments priority funding over tribal consortia.

In most cases, GAP funds cannot be used to implement environmental programs. However, if a grantee has demonstrated the capacity to manage a Tribal solid or hazardous waste program, then GAP funds can be used to support implementation of the program. For more information, please refer to the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Guidelines for the Award and Management of General Assistance Agreements for Indian Tribes, March 2000 (<http://www.epa.gov/indian/pdfs/gap2000.pdf>) and the 2006 Grant Administration Guidance, February 2006 (<http://www.epa.gov/indian/pdfs/gap2006.pdf>). Please contact your Tribal Coordinator for clarification in developing a reasonable cost proposal for these activities.

For FY 2007, in order to receive base GAP funding, all applicants must provide the following elements in the grant proposal:

- Narrative description of risks to human health and the environment to be addressed by the applicant, and their relation to any environmental assessment or strategy efforts conducted to date.
- Work plans and budget narrative describing tribal capacity building actions to address environmental and human health risks.

- Environmental outputs, outcomes, and milestones related to the capacity building actions and description of how these outputs, outcomes, and milestones are expected to contribute to eliminating or reducing environmental and human health risks.
- Other specific requirements as described in the enclosed Funding Announcement.

In addition, all applicants must demonstrate sound financial, administrative, and programmatic management capability. For current or previous recipients, this includes:

- Timeliness and completeness of reports
- Progress under the current work plan
- Absence of duplicative activities in proposed work plan and budget
- Amount of unexpended funds
- Responsiveness to Tribal Coordinator requests

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FY 2007 FUNDING PROCESS

- To be considered for base grant funding, your grant proposal, including the work plan and budget narrative must be submitted to EPA Region 10 postmarked no later than **Friday, December 15, 2006**.
- Work plans must be presented using a standardized template as discussed in the Indian General Assistance Program (GAP) 2006 Grant Administration Guidance. The work plan template is to be used by Tribes and tribal consortia applying for GAP funds.
- EPA Tribal Coordinators will contact Tribal staff to negotiate a final work plan and budget and to resolve any capability issues. Tribal Leaders will be informed of any issues that could result in a denial of funding. After negotiations are complete and any capability issues resolved, Tribes will be requested to submit a formal application package. Please review the enclosed funding announcement carefully for additional information regarding the FY 2007 funding process and timeline.
- If you are requesting funding to host the Tribal Leaders Summit, for the Peer Assistance program, and/or the financial training and special assistance, a one-page abstract must also be submitted.

For applicants in Alaska, general questions regarding the FY2007 Indian Environmental GAP Funding Announcement can be directed to the Tribal Trust and Assistance Unit (TTAU) staff at 1-800-781-0983. For applicants in Idaho, Oregon, or Washington, please directly contact Region 10 TTAU staff in Seattle at 1-800-424-4372.

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard Parkin, Acting Director
Office of Ecosystems, Tribal and Public Affairs

Enclosure: Funding Announcement with Attachments